

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1.-9. (Canceled)
10. (Currently amended) A process for the reduction and control of the hexafluorosilicate concentration ~~during the polishing of glass articles~~ in a polishing bath containing sulfuric acid and hydrofluoric acid, wherein during and/or after ~~the~~ a polishing operation, potassium fluoride, potassium sulfate, sodium fluoride, sodium sulfate and/or aluminium sulfate is added to the polishing bath and/or ~~the~~ a sulfuric acid washing bath in quantities of 2 - 10 g of ~~the~~ metal fluoride per liter or 3 - 15 g of ~~the~~ metal sulfate per liter of polishing bath or sulfuric acid washing bath for a batch size of between 150 and 500 glasses so that a reduction in the concentration of fluoride ions below an optimum operating range is avoided.
11. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 10, wherein when potassium sulfate, sodium sulfate or aluminium sulfate is added, zinc ions present in the polishing bath and/or in the sulfuric acid washing bath are, for the most part, co-precipitated as zinc sulfate.
12. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 10, wherein ~~at least one~~ two or more of the group comprising: potassium fluoride, K_2SO_4 , Na_2SO_4 , and NaF, ~~is~~ are added to the polishing bath.
13. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 10, wherein potassium sulfate and/or aluminium sulfate is added to the sulfuric acid washing bath.

14. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 10, wherein after the polishing operation, the addition of a metal fluoride and/or a metal sulfate is performed in a working vessel, settling vessel or storage vessel.
15. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 10, wherein preferably filtered air, is additionally blown into the polishing bath and/or the sulfuric acid washing bath.
16. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 10 wherein oxalic acid and/or potassium oxalate is additionally added to the polishing bath, preferably 0.05 to 1 g per liter polishing bath/batch for a batch size of between 150 and 500 glasses.
17. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 10, wherein 2.5 to 4.5 g of the metal fluoride per liter or 5 to 8 g of the metal sulfate per liter ~~of polishing bath or sulfuric acid washing bath~~ are added to the polishing bath or the sulfuric acid washing bath for a batch size of between 150 and 500 glasses.
18. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 17, wherein 2 to 5 g of the metal fluoride per liter or 5 to 8 g of the metal sulfate per liter ~~of polishing bath~~ are added to a polishing bath containing 45 to 65 wt.% sulfuric acid and 0.8 to 3.6 wt.% hydrofluoric acid, preferably 2.5 to 4.5 g potassium fluoride.